GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:691
ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008
MEASURES TO CONTROL HIV/AIDS
Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken measures for checking the spread of HIV/AIDS cases in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the achievement made as a nearest thereof during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the number of AIDS cases has witnessed a declining trend during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) & (b) In order to control the spread of HIV/AIDS, Government of India is implementing the National AIDS Control Programme as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme with the goal to halt and reverse the epidemic in the country over the next 5 years by integrating programmes for prevention, care, support and treatment. The programme adopts a four-pronged strategy:

1. Prevention of new infections in high risk groups and general population.

2. Providing greater care, support and treatment to larger number of PLHA.

3. Strengthening the infrastructure, systems and human resources in prevention, care, support and treatment programmes at the district, state and national level.

4. Strengthening the nationwide Strategic Information Management System.

These are achieved by up-scaling targeted interventions among the high risk groups, behaviour change communication for improved awareness, expanding, counseling and testing services, blood safety, support and treatment of HIV infected persons including the treatment of opportunistic infections, provision of anti-retroviral drugs and mainstreaming of HIV intervention strategies.

Based on the results of annual HIV Sentinel Surveillance, Adult HIV prevalence rate in the country has recorded a stable trend from 0.41% in 2004, 0.39% in 2005, 0.36% in 2006 to 0.34% in 2007. Behavioural Surveillance Survey was carried out in 2001 and 2006 and has shown an increase in the awareness level about HIV/AIDS from 67.4% to 80.4% and Condom use among general population during commercial sex has also increased from 40.1% to 58.3%.

(d)&(e) Due to the expansion of the Care and Support Programme in the country, more number of AIDS cases are detected and put on ART over years. The details of the AIDS cases detected and put on ART during the last three years are as below:

Year	Cumulative Number of AIDS Patients on ART
2005-06	29,746
2006-07	70,276

2007-08 1,41,163

2008 (September) 1,77,808